

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated November 2, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the above claim amendment and the following remarks. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance. Applicants appreciate the allowance of Claims 49-51, 54-55, 57 and 74 and the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 36, 38-40, 43-44, 46 and 59. As will be discussed below, to expedite issuance of the present application, Applicants have submitted the present amendments to place this case in a form indicated as allowable.

The Section 112 Rejections:

Claims 32, 42, 47, 73 and 62 stand rejected as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Office Action, p. 2. Of these claims, all but Claims 42 and 73 have been canceled. The Section 112 rejection of Claims 73 and 42, which depends from Claim 73, are based on a failure to first define the acronym "PIC." Claim 73 has been amended to define the acronym as "primary interexchange carrier." While, as seen in the attached acronym list for PIC from thefreedictionary.com, several telephony related definitions are (and were) in use, paragraph 14 of the present specification clearly identifies PIC as a type of telephone number pre-fix. As such, while either "pre-designated" or "primary" interexchange carrier definitions would have been known to one of skill in the art, Applicant's have used the term "primary" for purposes of amending Claim 73. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the Section 112 rejections of Claims 73 and 42.

The Section 102 Rejections:

Claims 32-35, 41, 44, 47, 52, 55, 58, 61-65, 67 and 68 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,363,065 to Thornton et al. ("Thornton"). Office Action, p. 2. Applicants submit these rejections are obviated by the amendments above. Independent Claim 32 has been amended above to include the recitations of objected to Claim 36 (by deleting the alternative recitations corresponding to Claim 37) and Claims 36-37 have been canceled. Accordingly, Claim 32 has been amended to a form

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indicated as allowable with reference to previously pending Claim 36 and Claim 32 and the claims that depend therefrom are allowable for at least these reasons.

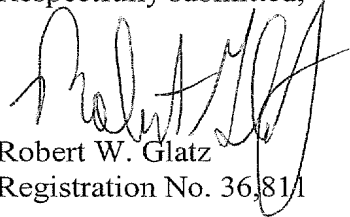
Claim 47 has been canceled.

Independent Claim 58 has been amended above to include the recitations of objected to Claim 59 (by deleting the alternative recitations corresponding to Claim 60) and Claims 59-60 have been canceled. Accordingly, Claim 58 has been amended to a form indicated as allowable with reference to previously pending Claim 59 and Claim 58 and the claims that depend therefrom are allowable for at least these reasons.

Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request allowance of the present application. If further informalities are noted, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone to expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

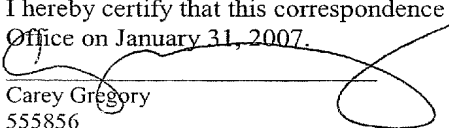


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CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted electronically to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on January 31, 2007.



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